

THE JOURNAL



OF THE PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Number 21

October 1989

CONTENTS

Calendar of Coming Events	2
Message from the President	3
The Symbolism of a One Dollar Bill	4
The Bookworm	13
Legends on Chinese Cash Coins	14
The Syngraphics Scene	16
From the Idle Mind of Stephen M. Huston	18
1946 Iowa Half Dollar	20
Medals Round-Up	25
San Francisco Through Its Tokens	27

PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Founded 1915

610 Arlington Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707

OFFICERS:	President	David W. Lange
	Vice President	Herb Miles
	Treasurer	Don T. Thrall
	Secretary	Frank J. Strazzarino
	Governor	David F. Cieniewicz
	Governor	Mark W. Clark
	Governor	Paul D. Holtzman
	Governor	Rick Webster

JOURNAL STAFF:

Editors	David F. Cieniewicz Rebecca A. Cieniewicz P.O. Box 2698 Redwood City, CA 94064
Publisher	Paul D. Holtzman
Typesetting & Graphics	Stephen M. Huston

The Journal is the quarterly publication of the *Pacific Coast Numismatic Society*. Annual subscriptions to **The Journal** are \$10.00. Most back issues are available at \$2.50 each. PCNS encourages the reprinting of articles from **The Journal**. Permission may be obtained from the editors.

© 1989, *Pacific Coast Numismatic Society*

P.C.N.S. CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

☛ *New meeting address: 1515 -19th Avenue in San Francisco.*

October 25, 1989. Wednesday at 8:00 pm:

PCNS Numismatists Survive London

Speaker: Herb Miles & Co.

November 29, 1989. Wednesday at 8:00 pm:

Military Payment Certificates

Speaker: Matthew V. Rockman

December 27, 1989. Wednesday at 8:00 pm:

Annual Holiday Party and Business Meeting

Elections and refreshments: please bring goodies to share.

Monthly meetings are held at The New Telephone Museum in San Francisco
1515 -19th Avenue (between Kirkham & Lawton). Guests are invited.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by David W. Lange



One of my projects over the past few months has been the preparation of research notes for a history of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society which we hope to publish for our 75th Anniversary in 1990. While reading through the minutes of the Society's early meetings, I was reminded of a book that I had obtained at an auction some time ago. Intending to read it as the mood struck me, now seemed the ideal time to delve into its pages. This volume is Howard Adleson's centennial history of the American Numismatic Society, published in 1958. Setting

aside my task for a few hours, I began to read.

When we think of the ANS, we imagine it as it is today, a prominent and well-established society of numismatic scholars. However, it was not always thus. The ANS actually traces its origin to a small gathering of coin collectors drawn together through mutual interest. Although its founders were indeed educated men, mostly of the professional class, none were remarkable scholars. Though the two societies were separated by nearly 60 years, much the same can be said for PCNS and its founders. While they may have deserved to call themselves numismatists by virtue of their learning, they were in essence simply collectors.

Like the ANS, our society has had its ups and downs. Both burst forth amidst a flurry of activity and enthusiasm, only to have interest and participation decline shortly thereafter. Nevertheless, each has managed to grow and evolve in a rapidly changing climate of numismatics. Both continue to serve their membership and to provide that sense of continuity so satisfying to the dedicated hobbyist or scholar.

As I write this, my last address as president of PCNS, my thoughts are of the upcoming celebration. I look ahead also to our society's centennial in 2015. It is my sincere hope that what we achieve now will lay a firm foundation for the quarter century that is to follow.

Dave Lange

THE SYMBOLISM OF A ONE DOLLAR BILL

by Robert Gray

What is the dollar?

We think of the dollar as the American form of money. Many books on the subject of the dollar deal only with finances or economics. Rarely do we stop and think about the dollar itself, that small bit of paper and ink that we use so often in our lives. The symbolism and codes on this bill are deep and rich with the heritage of our land and those who helped to raise the country from its infancy. The symbols on the bill are closely linked with the ideologies that were present during the "new age" era of our country's foundation. This paper will look at many of the symbols, slogans and mottos on the one dollar bill as well as some of the meanings attributed to these symbols and slogans.

The dollar has become a symbol unto itself. To know the financial situation of any country, business organization or individual is to know its inner essence. When a monetary bill, especially the one dollar bill, is designed or changed, special care is given to every element on the face and reverse design. It is for this reason that the various elements of the dollar bill carry such weighty symbolism and meaning.

First, we must look at the dollar bill itself, with a brief overview of its historical life and physical structure. We shall touch briefly upon the portrait on the present one dollar bill and some of the ideology behind its selection. The main focus of this paper is The Great Seal of the United States, both obverse and reverse, including the national motto. We shall look also at the Treasury Seal and Federal District Seal, both of which appear on the obverse of the current one dollar note.

A history of the one dollar bill must begin with the struggling new nation at the time of the Revolutionary War. "When the Constitution was adopted, in 1789, [the United States] had no coins of [its] own." [1] Coins used were mainly by the British because at that time the United Colonies were still part of England. Following the revolution, there was much English influence that would be hard to overcome. Many took a purist view. They believed that if the new United States were truly to become a separate and equal power in the world, there would have to be certain transformations in many or all aspects of American life, government and, certainly, economics that would show the new country's independence and self-sovereignty. One obvious way toward this end was for the fledgling country to have its own money base. American coinage can be said to have begun when President Adams took office.

"On July 22, 1797, President Adams proclaimed that the coinage of silver had commenced on October 16, 1794, and the coinage of gold on July 31, 1795, and declared that foreign silver coins were not to constitute legal tender after October 15, 1797, and the foreign gold coin should not constitute legal tender after July 31, 1798." [2]

Various types of paper money were in use in all the American colonies while still under English rule. [3] American printed bills, however, took much longer to evolve. The first demand notes did not appear until around 1861. [4]

Perhaps not so ironically, this date coincides with the beginnings of the States' first major internal conflict. The Civil War was fought over the rights of states versus the rights of a centralized government. One of the major conflicts inherent with the right of self-government, as the founding fathers discovered, was the right to print money. During the Civil War, the notes were little more than promissory notes dependent on the outcome of the hostilities. [5]

The Greenbacks

The paper, ink and design features are important more for the protection against counterfeiting than for symbolic significance, but they, too, have a history to tell. "The ink used by the United States Treasury Printing Bureau, and all Bank Note Companies, is manufactured expressly for printing Bonds and Bank Notes." [6]

The printing and handling of new monetary notes is a security-conscious occupation. Since its earliest days, American money has had to thwart counterfeiters by keeping the methods and materials ahead of technologies and innovations. "Stacy J. Edison was the man who, in 1875, invented the green ink which Uncle Sam uses, and this he patented. It is antiphotographic—that is, cannot be photographed, nor can it be moved with alkalis by counterfeiters working to get a facsimile of the notes. The secrets of the ink are carefully kept." [7] It is this special "non-duplicatable" green ink that gives the dollar bill its nickname, greenback. The paper is also designed to present an obstacle for counterfeiters with its special blue tinting and blue and red hairs intermixed with the fibrous surface known as the Wilcox fiber. [8]

Currency historian Gene Hessler suggests, "One fortunate result of the war against counterfeiting has been [that] governments have employed the best artists to create paper money. The best designers and engravers and the finest inks are used along with attractive features such as beautiful watermarks and watermarked portraits." [9]

Portraits

The most prominent part of any US bill is the portrait on the center of the obverse. Lists are made coupling the denomination of the bill with the historical figure pictured upon it.

"When the Act [of April 2, 1792] first passed the Senate it provided for an impression of the coinage of the head of the President for the time being, in imitation of the coinage of most European countries.

This proviso was stricken out in the House of Representatives, and after some discussion the Senate concurred." [10]

This reflects the desire within colonial America to sever the relationship with European values and methodology by restructuring the norms of even the most accepted practices. "Washington himself felt that such a design seemed too indicative of monarchy." [11] Washington's bust was placed on the one dollar note at around the turn of the century, long after his death.

The act was written for coins and said nothing of bills, mainly because "the framers of the Constitution had no intention of allowing the government to issue paper money. Memories of the depreciated Continental currency were still too vivid." [12]

The Great Seal of The United States

The Great Seal of The United States appears in two parts, obverse and reverse, on the back side of the one dollar bill. "The pattern of the New World Order, as shown by the symbolism of the seal of the United States, rests upon the Masonic virtues..." [13] Some of these virtues are centered around the colors used on the actual Seal of the United States, but these ideas lie outside the scope of this paper since the seal on the one dollar bill is printed in one color only. "With the printing of the 1953 one dollar silver certificates, the face and back design of the Great Seal was used for the first time on United States paper money. [14] However, the general design of the obverse and reverse of the Great Seal were arranged at the same time in 1782. [15]

Perhaps the most in-depth study of the meaning of the symbols on the bill comes from the study of numbers.

"In Hebrew and Greek, every letter is a number. Every word therefore is a number, the sum of the value of its letters . . . Based upon this fact, [there is] a method of Biblical interpretation called *Geometria*." [16]

In addition to the Hebrew letters having related numbers, they also have related meanings.

"These ideas [are] familiar to many Freemason's today...and were even better understood by the average member of the Craft in 1776, and must certainly have been known to so indefatigable a researcher into all things strange and curious as Benjamin Franklin" [17]

Historian Case seems to be setting a path along which the obvious direction is the natural intermixing of the Masonic order and the foundation of our country's symbols. As we shall see, the two may not have been as inseparable as many think; there is indeed a close connection which is observed in the design of our currency.

The Obverse of the Great Seal

The Great Seal is associated with many parts of government, but often we see only the obverse or front of the seal. On the obverse is the American Bald Eagle, the national bird. "The American eagle with an escutcheon, or shield, on its breast symbolizes self-reliance." [18] This type of self-reliance would have been indicative of the thoughts of the founding fathers, designing new symbols to reflect the ideology of their new union.

Case suggests that because of geometria, the system of numerical values for letters, symbols can have ulterior meanings. The meaning derived for the eagle is that "the nine feathers of the eagle's tail refer to control of the Mars-force, and to the courage and hardiness which are among the results of continence and self-control." [19] Whether or not this was fully the meaning



*The Great Seal
of
The United States
(obverse)*

intended by the original designers, we can be sure that at least they were trying to associate some of the more traditional powerful allusions of the eagle to the new union.

"The eagle is an ancient symbol of spiritual vision. It was supposed to be the only creature that could look directly into the sun. Thus the eagle proclaims that spiritual vision is essential to true Americanism, and suggests the means whereby that vision may be attained." [20]

If it is agreed that the eagle represents America itself, all the symbols attached to and arranged near the eagle will carry a relative analogy. That is to say, those things held by the eagle represent things that should be "held" by America itself as part of its ideology.

"The olive branch in the eagle's dexter talon symbolizes peace....The eagles of the monarchies which preceded the United States usually carried the symbols of war on the dexter side. Our national arms proclaim the principle that the primary aim of the United States shall be to establish peace. Hence the eagle faces the olive branch. [21]

This desire for peace may be suggested by the fact that the eagle's head is turned toward the olive branch rather than the arrows. [22] Obviously the positioning of these relatively simple objects can carry much more weight than would be noticed through casual observation. The World Book suggests that these arrows represent war to balance the representation of peace. It states, "It [America/the eagle] prefers to live in peace, but can wage war." [23] Historian Case reads yet a deeper level of symbolism into the arrows, combining their power with the olive branch. The arrows clutched in the eagle's talon "are symbols of aim, denoting purpose, will, intention...meaning that it is a cardinal principle of true Americanism that recourse to arms shall be for no other purpose than the maintenance of a just cause..." [24] Case seems to suggest a "might for right" mentality that presents the eagle as using his power of war to oversee the maintenance of peace. This observation may not have been as rapidly available at the time of the symbol's inception when the United States was not yet the world power that it would become in later years.

An idea more indicative of the era of the creation of the seal comes from the Iroquois Indians. This idea, symbolized by the arrows, is not only strength but

unity. It has been suggested that this symbolism comes from the Six Nations of the Iroquois. "[The Iroquois] have frequently taken a single arrow and said, children, see how easy it is broken, they then tie twelve arrows together with strong cords—and our strongest men could not break them...this is what the Six Nations mean." [25] This interpretation takes into account the idea of the Indian involvement in the formation of early America. Among the ideas put forth is the understanding that many of the founding fathers saw the Indian's ability to unify into a "nation" while the States were still struggling to break from England and join together to form a new unified world power. [26]

Other symbols are associated with the eagle. "The 13 vertical stripes on the escutcheon came from the flag of 1777..." [27] It has been suggested that if the eagle represents America, then the parts of the eagle must represent the American government. The top of the shield is said to represent Congress, the eagle's head the executive branch, and the nine tail feathers the judiciary. [28] This type of relational symbolism is common in interpretation of symbols, both political and literary. Perhaps more esoteric are the concepts of numerical associations, linking symbols to even more remote concepts. Masonic historian Paul Case looks to the 13-star "new" constellation of the 1776 flag that lies above the eagle's head for further representations.

"The constellation, composed of thirteen stars, emphasizes the ideas of unity and love...it is composed of pentagrams, (five-pointed stars) so arranged that their grouping forms a hexagram or six-pointed star." [29]

Multi-level interpretation is again subject to point of view. Were these stars arranged with the Masonic allusions in mind, or did they fall into place in a coincidental pattern that lends itself to further interpretation? Case furthers his examination on the former idea:

"From time immemorial the hexagram has been a symbol of forces of the macrocosm, or great universe...The pentagram expresses the mind's domination over the elements." [30]

The Reverse of the Great Seal

1935 was the first time both the face and back design of The Great Seal of the United States appeared on United States paper money. [31] This reverse design on the back of the one dollar bill is currently the only use of the reverse of The Great Seal anywhere. The reverse design is dominated by "a pyramid of stone, representing the Union, watched over by the Eye of Providence enclosed in its traditional triangle." [32] The pyramid has 13 rows of stones to symbolize the thirteen colonies. It may have deeper numerical meanings dating back to the ancient Hebrew alpha-numeric system, which are the basis for much of Masonry. The All-Seeing Eye or Eye of Providence is a Masonic symbol which seems appropriate since Franklin and Washington were Masons. [33]

"The Eye often represents the inner light or intuition. The triangle enclosing the eye is associated with several societies including the Rosicrucian Order, of which Jefferson was a member." [34]

The All-Seeing Eye seems to carry the most obvious Masonic relationship of any of the symbols on the one dollar bill. The official explanation is that the unfinished pyramid symbolizes material strength, a foundation for growth and a goal of perfection. [35] John Tompkins suggests that the eye represents the eternal eye of God and the virtue of putting the spiritual above the material (represented by the building of stone). [36] Either way, the suggestion is towards the heavens and the power of the divine.



*The Great Seal
of
The United States
(reverse)*

Along with the pictorial symbolism of the seals, there is verbalization written stylistically in Latin. The first of the two mottos is "*Annuet Coeptis*" which according to Hessler means "He [God] has smiled on our undertakings." [37] This shows the profound influence of the religion of the time. Case reads a different translation of the words as "He hath prospered our undertaking." [38] This suggests that, in explaining the act of 1782, "those who chose this motto were confident that the United States were under Divine Guidance." [39]

The second motto on the reverse of the Great Seal of the United States is *Novus Ordo Seclorum*, meaning "A New Order of the Ages". [40] This may suggest the "new age" of 1776—the new birth of a nation. This date also appears on the bottom of the pyramid of the reverse of the bill, MDCCLXXVI, 1776. [41]

The numerical meaning of all of these symbols is quite lengthy and I will not in this space try to elaborate on the interpretations of the geometria. I shall note only that there are a number of symbolic objects that may be counted and have meanings "found" for them which tie in to the ideals of Freemasonry and the "new age" nation of 1776.

The National Motto

Latin seems a very astute and scholarly way of presenting ideas on what is essentially an official government document. But part of the dogma of this new government of the new country given the chance to start from scratch was the power of the common man. The Constitution suggested that every man, no matter how far outnumbered, should be given the chance to lead his own life in the way he may choose. Part of this was the idea of making the common person literate and able to participate in the democratic process created for and by the people but still giving the respect to a divinity above the people and the government. This may have been the motivation behind printing the official motto of the United States in common English, "In God We Trust." The motto has been around since at least 1864 but was not put on paper currency until 1935. [42]

"The suggestion to include "In God We Trust" on our currency was presented to the secretary of the Treasury, George W. Humphrey, in November 1953, by Matthew H. Rothert of Camden Arkansas. [The necessary] bills to this effect were introduced into the Senate by Senator Fulbright of Arkansas and into the House of Representatives by Congressmen Bennett of Florida and Harris of Arkansas. [43]



*Official Seal of the
U.S. Treasury Department*

The Treasury Seal

Fear of the new bills' non-acceptance prompted the creation of several seals which would verify the authenticity of the bill to be redeemed upon demand. The Department of the Treasury had a number of seals, the first of which is attributed to Governor Morris, designed in 1778. [44] Congress approved this seal which was used beginning in 1782. So many changes were made in the seal's design that "in 1861, Spencer Clark, the Chief Engineer of the small National Note Bureau, was requested by the Secretary of the Treasury to design a new seal for the Department." [45] He described his new design as

"...a facsimile of the Seal adopted by the Treasury Department for its documents on the ground of a geometric lathe work, the exterior being composed of thirty-four points, similarly executed. The points were designed to be typical of the thirty-four states, and to simulate the appearance of the seals ordinarily affixed to public documents." [46]

Hessler makes note that Clark must have disregarded the secession of the eleven states the year before. But even this new design was not satisfactory. In Clark's design, the legend of the seal appeared in Latin, reading "*Thesaur Amer. Septent Sigil*" and meaning "The Seal of the Treasury of North America". [47] In 1966, the new version appeared on the \$100 United States Note. This new version was written in English and read "The Department of the Treasury 1789". By January 1968, this version had replaced the Latin version on all the notes. With all of the seal's changes, it has appeared on all paper money issued by the Treasury Department since 1862. [48] "The Treasury seal is the final stamp of approval that insures the legality of our currency. " [49]

Federal Reserve District Seal

The seal with the saw-tooth edge on the left hand side of the face represents the Federal Reserve System. Inside the circle the Federal Reserve Bank that issued the money is identified. There are 12 districts in the Federal Reserve system, each with its own bank. These banks are allowed to issue (not print) money for that district and its branch territories. [38] Each bank has its own letter assigned to it which is printed within the circle made by the name of the Federal Reserve Bank on the seal. This letter also appears at the beginning of the nine-digit code printed in light green on the current bills. [51]

Through all of this symbolism, we can not only read the point of view of the founding fathers on their visions of the actions they were taking to create a new country, but their firm belief in the power and importance of symbols. Perhaps it is ironic that from the freedoms they have provided, America has grown into a country with more commercialism than any other. This commercialism relies heavily upon the understanding of certain symbols to represent ideologies and new ways of living. So, too, do the symbols on those small green bits of paper that should buy the consumer a new way of life. Our forefathers had the foresight to see the power of the right symbols. This could easily be proven by showing the longevity of the systems, ideals and symbols which represent those ideals. The one dollar bill that we carry around is loaded with symbolism designed to suggest the "new" ideas of 1776. The simple choice of which portrait to use on the bills represents a whole value system in itself.

The Great Seal of The United States also can carry rich symbolism depending on how deeply or from what point of view a person looks at the meanings of the symbols. Mottos and slogans can promote certain values for a nation as easily as a slogan can sell toothpaste. The value of the currency resting on the value and strength of the governing system can be shown using symbols such as the Treasury Seal and Federal Reserve Seal. This value system must be strong to be able to withstand the changes of politics, economics and technology, among others, that have taken place since it was first set in motion in the new country of America.

FOOTNOTES

- 1) Paul Bakewell, Jr., Past and Present Facts About Money in the United States, (New York: The MacMillian Co., 1936) p. 20
- 2) Bakewell, Facts about Money, p. 20
- 3) Robert Friedberg, Paper Money of the United States: A Complete Illustrated Guide with Valuations, (New York: The Coin and Currency Institute, Inc., 1968) p. 9
- 4) Friedberg, Paper Money, p. 9
- 5) Hessler, Catalog, p. 30
- 6) Hessler, Catalog, p. 401
- 7) Wismer, "Paper Money"
- 8) Hessler, Catalog, p. 401
- 9) Hessler, Catalog, p. 399
- 10) A. R. Slanbaugh, "Portraits of Living Persons upon U. S. Coins and Currency" The Numismatist, (Racine, Wi: American Numismatic Association, 1960)

- 11) Hessler, Catalog, p. 45
- 12) A. R. Slanbaugh, "Portraits of Living Persons upon U. S. Coins and Currency" The Numismatist, (Raine, Wi: American Numismatic Association, 1960)
- 13) Paul Foster Case, The Great Seal of the United States, (Santa Barbara, J. F. Rowdy) 1935, p. 8
- 14) Hessler, Catalog, p. 29
- 15-16) Case, The Great Seal, p. 11
- 17) Case, The Great Seal, p. 12
- 18) "Great Seal of the United States" The World Book Encyclopedia, (Chicago: World Book, Inc.) Vol. 8 (6) p. 372
- 19) Case, The Great Seal, p. 21
- 20-21) Case, The Great Seal, p. 13
- 22) John S. Thompkins, "I am a Dollar," Readers Digest, (New York: Readers Digest Association, December 1988), p. 155
- 23) The World Book, p. 372
- 24) Case, The Great Seal, p. 15
- 25) Donald A. Grinde, "Iroquois (Six Nations) Political Theory and the U.S. Constitution," Hearing Before the Select Committee of Indian Affairs, United States Senate, (December 2, 1987) p. 138
- 26) Barreiro (e.), Indian Roots, Vol. 4/5
- 27) The World Book, p. 29
- 28) Thompkins, "Dollar," p. 155
- 29) Case, The Great Seal, p. 18
- 30) Eliphas Levi, The Mysteries of Magic, Part V. section III, c.f., Case, The Great Seal, p.19
- 31) Hessler, Catalog, p. 66
- 32) The World Book, p. 372
- 33-36) Thompkins, "Dollar," p. 155
- 37) Hessler, Catalog, p. 29
- 38-39) Case, The Great Seal, p. 24
- 40) Hessler, Catalog, p. 29
- 41) The World Book, p. 372
- 42) Hessler, Catalog, p. 69
- 43) Hessler, Catalog, p. 30
- 44) Friedberg, Paper Money, p.10
- 45) Hessler, Catalog, p. 28
- 46) Clark C. F. Hessler, Catalog, p. 29
- 47) Hessler, Catalog, p. 29
- 48-49) Friedberg, Paper Money, p.10
- 50) Hessler, Catalog, p. 38
- 51) Hessler, Catalog, p. 3

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bakewell, Paul, Jr., Past and Present Facts About Money in the United States, New York, The MacMillian Co., 1936

Bibliography continued on page 15



THE BOOKWORM

by David W. Lange

The Standard Catalogue of Encased Postage Stamps

New to my bookshelf is yet another work from the prolific offices of Bowers and Merena Galleries. Authored by Michael J. Hodder and Q. David Bowers, The Standard Catalogue of Encased Postage Stamps is just what it claims to be, the standard. Although encased postage has enjoyed periodic waves of popularity, it has largely been misunderstood and misattributed. The thoroughness of this new work should remedy that situation once and for all.

There are chapters delving into the background of Civil War necessity money, the origins of encased postage, their construction and distribution, and the personalities behind each issue. Also included are sections on rarity, grading and price structure.

Not being a collector of the series myself, I found the most entertaining portion of the book to be the individual chapters detailing the lives of the various issuers, their business ventures, and their utilization of these clever tokens. Issued by a wide assortment of individuals and firms, these storecards included advertisements for everything from patent medicines to "fancy goods".

Each encasement is illustrated actual size and also in an enlarged format. The photographs are very distinct and the entire work displays what Hollywood would call "high production values". Each encasement is listed by the various stamp denominations known, and most are priced in several grades.

The Standard Catalogue of Encased Postage Stamps is published in both hardcover and softcover editions, priced at \$27.95 and \$19.95, respectively. Interested persons are asked to include \$2.00 for postage and handling with each order. Address all inquiries to Bowers & Merena Galleries, Inc., P.O. Box 1224, Wolfeboro, NH 03894.

MEDALS ROUND-UP

Debuting in this issue of The Journal is a new feature, "Medals Round-Up". The intent of "Medals Round-Up" is to record the statistical data of new coin club medals and provide ordering information to potential buyers. This service is offered free of charge to all coin clubs. The only requirement is that clubs must donate one medal to PCNS for photographic purposes. Medals will not be returned and will be disposed of at the discretion of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society.

LEGENDS ON CHINESE CASH COINS

by Ivan Florine

Several things can be said concerning the legends on the Chinese cash. Most of the cash have to be read from top to bottom and right to left, but some have to be read in a clockwise direction: top-right-bottom-left. Then, there are various ways to write a Chinese character. They are usually classified under six different styles: Da Zhuan, Xiao Zhuan, Lishu, Xingshu, Kaishu and Caoshu. In addition, there are several non-Chinese script types: Tangut (Xi Xia), Mongolian (Yuan), Manchurian (Ch'ing) and Turkish script. In order to understand words written in these different scripts, tables of transcription are certainly welcome. I insist that for the same script, several varieties of writing a character are seen on coins, and once again I disagree with many writers and collectors. These differences must be listed under different catalog numbers! We do it for modern coinage, so we have to do it for ancient Chinese coins, too. They have once again chosen the easier way to do things.

What can be found on the cash? First of all, there are the legends on the obverse and reverse. In the beginning, coins had only legends on their obverse; later, both sides were used. On the obverse, as we said previously, we usually meet four characters: two for the words "Current Currency" "Tung Pao" and two for the "Nien Hao". Sometimes instead of having the character T'ung, there is the one of Yuan (source, first) or Ch'ung (weight). Most of the times one of these three characters goes along with the Pao character. The "Nien Hao" characters representing the title that the emperor took during a period of his reign give us indirectly the date of the cash. An emperor could have several Nien Hoa during his reign. In our western world, rulers also had a description that went along with their reigns: Jean sans Peur, Jean le Bon, Richard Coeur de Lion, Charles the Bald, etc. It is the same for the Chinese emperors; they had several names. Unfortunately, several names, as they were popular, have been used by different rulers, so one has to be extremely careful when attributing a cash to a ruler! One thing is certain: each Nien Hao means something. It is quite funny after having translated it to determine whether the given "nickname" was appropriate or not!



*Emperor Kao Tsu, Tang Dynasty, 618-626 AD, A Cash with Empress' Nail Mark on Reverse
Photo by Stephen M. Huston from a specimen in stock*

On the reverse of the cash, characters may or may not be found. If there are no characters, this side may be either blank (without anything on) or with some signs. Among the most encountered signs, we have the crescent (like the

Arabic crescent on modern coins), lines, dots, circles and stars. Concerning the crescent, one has to be sure that it has a curved shape. It is said that the crescent is, in fact, a nailmark. Let's listen to the tale: "Once upon a time, there was an emperor who loved his empress a lot and he decided to order the casting of a new cash. Once the coin was prepared, the empress, holding the mother-coin, still hot, left the trace of one of her fingernails on the cash. The person in charge of the casting was, of course, afraid to have his head chopped off because he hadn't done his job properly. Instead of producing the new coin as it had been modified by the empress, he went and asked the emperor what he should do. The emperor answered him that, as everything the empress touches is sacred and as he loved his empress, the cash has to be produced as it was modified by his beloved wife. This is the most popular and beautiful story concerning the crescent. Some old chaps in China say that the crescent has been used in order to represent the moon. Concerning the lines, I personally consider them to be not a sign but the number "1". Therefore, it should be considered as belonging to the second kind of legends found on the reverse. The presence of these signs, whatever they are and represent, can help to find which mint bureau cast them. The position of these signs differs: once they can be found on top, once vertically, etc. Concerning the real other characters that are found on the reverse of the cash, you have the face value, zodiacal sign, the mint bureau mark given in one or several languages and, from time to time, the exact copy of the obverse. The latter has to be considered an error. Concerning the phenomenon of the so-called "rosette" as a central hole, it is considered an error: a double striking at approximately 90 degrees, not as a mint bureau mark or a way to represent a star.

Dollar Symbolism Bibliography continued from page 12

- Barreiro, Jose [e.], Donald Grinde, "It's Time to Take Away the Veil" Indian Roots of American Democracy, North East Indian Quarterly, vol. 4/5, Spring 1988.
- Case, Paul Foster, The Great Seal of the United States, Santa Barbara, J. F. Rowdy, 1935
- Friedberg, Robert, Paper Money of the United States: A Complete Illustrated Guide with Valuations, (New York, The Coin and Currency Institute, Inc., 1968)
- "Great Seal of the United States" The World Book Encyclopedia, (Chicago, World Book, Inc., Vol. 8 [6], 1986)
- Grinde, Dr. Donald, "Iroquois (Six Nations) Political Theory and the U.S. Constitution," Hearing Before the Select Committee of Indian Affairs, United States Senate, December 2, 1987
- Hessler, Gene, The Comprehensive Catalog of U.S. Paper Money, (Chicago, Henry Regnery & Co., 1974)
- Slahbaugh, A. R., "Portraits of Living Persons upon U. S. Coins and Currency" The Numismatist, (Racine, Wisc., American Numismatic Association, 1960)
- Thompkins, John S., "I am a Dollar," Readers Digest, (New York, Readers Digest Association, December 1988)
- Wisner, D. C., "Paper Money used in the United States From 1690 to 1860" The Numismatist, (Racine, Wisc., American Numismatic Association, 1960)

The Syngraphics Scene

by Ken Barr

The Money of War

In addition to affecting lives and property, war has a habit of requiring changes in the paper money of the nations involved. With the recent fiftieth anniversary of the start of World War II, this seems an appropriate time to review the changes that occurred in syngraphics at that time, most of which were solely as a result of the war itself. Both Allies and Axis made currency modifications, along with many other more neutral nations.

Perhaps the most well-known of these items, at least to U.S. currency collectors, are the "Hawaii" overprinted notes. These consist of \$1 silver certificates and \$5, \$10 and \$20 Federal Reserve Notes identical in design to their currently circulating counterparts, but with the Treasury seal and serial numbers in brown rather than the normal blue or green. Additionally, a small boldface "HAWAII" was printed at each end of the face of the notes, and a large skeleton block letter "HAWAII" was printed on the back. One month after their issuance in July 1942, the use of non-Hawaii notes was prohibited on the islands. At the same time, these notes were prohibited from being returned to the mainland for circulation. Had the Japanese invaded Hawaii after that time, it would have been a simple matter to demonitize the captured notes without affecting the normal course of commerce. These restrictions were lifted on October 21, 1944, and the notes have circulated freely since that time along with their normal counterparts. Overall, 66 million notes with a face value over \$411 million were printed.

Less well known, but also related, are the "yellow seal" \$1, \$5 and \$10 silver certificates used in North Africa in November 1942. These were issued to the Allied invasion troops and could similarly be demonitized if large amounts were captured by the enemy. Later, they were also used in Sicily for a short time before being replaced by Allied Military lira.

Much less well known to the syngraphist are these "Allied Military Currency" issues, to be used by the occupying forces after liberating previously enemy-held land. These currencies were printed in the denominations of the land expected to be occupied and were strictly under the control of the Commander in Chief of the appropriate military government. Most of these notes were printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, although the high-volume demands required that some of the work be performed by non-government printers such as Forbes Lithograph Company of Boston and Stecher-Traung Lithograph Company of San Francisco. Since Forbes was permitted to include a secret "f" in the design of the notes they printed, and Stecher-Traung a secret "s", these notes are collectable by printer as well as series/denomination!

The countries for which Allied Military Currency (AMC) was issued are

Austria (50 groschen through 1000 shilling denominations)

France (2 franc through 1000 franc denominations)

Germany (1/2 mark through 1000 mark)

Italy (1 lira through 1000 lire)

Japan and Okinawa (10 sen through 1000 yen)

The Japan/Okinawa notes were in use until 1958, with the later series printed by Japan's Ministry of Finance Printing Bureau.

The United States was not the only country preparing for occupancy, however. In 1943, the Japanese started printing invasion money for the territories they either occupied already or expected to occupy shortly. These included the Philippines (1 centavo to 1000 pesos), Malaya (one cent to \$1000), Dutch East Indies (1 cent to 10 gulden and 1/2 roepiah to 1000 roepiah), Burma (one cent to 100 rupees) and Oceania (any British possession) (1 shilling to 1 pound). Many of these notes were "liberated" by American G.I.'s after the war and can still be found in original uncirculated packs even today.

Other items frequently included in the war money category are barter unit certificates, British Military Authority notes, British Armed Forces Special Vouchers, foreign trade payment certificates, French military currency, partisan notes, Netherlands liberation notes, Russian occupation notes, prisoner-of-war notes, concentration camp scrip, Philippine guerilla currency and even the Philippine Victory notes series of 1944.

Surprisingly, the United States Military Payment Certificate series, highly popular and collectible today, was a post-war introduction, starting in September 1946. These were not introduced to prevent misuse of captured currency by an enemy of the United States but rather to stop the tremendous black market being conducted with the circulating AMC.

Even though most of the designs of these notes are strictly functional, as the hurried timeframe of their introduction generally prevented any artistic license in their execution, there is still a sense of power and formalism in them. The use of bold colors, ornate geometric designs and fine intaglio engraving must certainly have given the users of these notes, soldiers and civilians alike, a sense of stability and control so shortly after the extended period of instability and chaos.

Next time: How the currency of World War I was a different story

BIBLIOGRAPHY

James Rutlader, *Allied Military Currency*. Bill Johnson Creative Printing, 1968.

Fred Schwan, *Military Payment Certificates*. BNR Press, 1987.

Arlie Slabaugh, *Japanese Invasion Money*. Hewitt Bros., 1965.

Raymond S. Toy, *World War II Military Currency*. Malter-Westerfield Publ., 1969.

*The Byzantine bronze coin known as a 'nummium' was worth
1/19,200th of the gold 'solidus' in the 6th century AD
— from An Essay on Medals, by Pinkerton, 1808*

From the Idle Mind of Stephen M. Huston

DENIERS OF THE CRUZADEROS

Coinage of the Holy Wars: 1095 –1464

When, in 1095, Pope Urban called western Christendom to wage a holy war in the East to protect Christian pilgrims and residents in the Byzantine Empire, he had no idea that he was beginning several centuries of war which would eventually destroy the Byzantine Empire. By the time he ended his first call for soldiers to fight under the "Sign of the Cross", the new *cruzaderos* were making plans. *Crusader* is from *cruzadero*.

Unfortunately for the Christians, the Moslems also viewed the crusades as a holy war, but, naturally, they believed *they* were on the side of truth. With both sides having been informed by their leaders that God was on *their* side and that those who died in battle would be instantly rewarded in the afterlife, the stage was set for the bloodiest battles of the Middle Ages. Victory or death were the only honorable choices for either side, and, in the name of all that was holy to Christians and Moslems, all hell broke loose in the Holy Land.

The crusaders produced a wide variety of coinage struck by military leaders, princes who captured territory during the crusades and for trade required by the presence of crusaders in the east. All of these are collectible and provide fascinating stories in every case.



Bohemund IV
Crusader King of Antioch
Silver Denier struck circa 1163-1201
Obv: Bohemund in Knight's Armor
Rev: Sign of the Cross



New kings sprang up as military leaders from noble families in Europe captured cities and pronounced themselves king by right of conquest. Many of these produced coins in their own name for use in the areas under their control.

Some of these new principalities and kingdoms, often limited to the very walled cities they had captured, maintained a rule for several generations, making them local dynasties with a series of coins in the names of various rulers. The Greek city of Achaia, which seems out of place in middle-eastern wars, was captured by Frankish crusaders who, finding the town nearly defenseless, chose not to go east to win territory.



Maud of Hainaut
Crusader Duchy of Achaia, Greece
1316-1321
Silver Denier Tournois
Cross and Castle designs



It is not a simple task to enumerate the reasons for the popularity of these religious wars. In Europe, younger sons of ruling families had no hope of ever ruling in their own lands where law and tradition ordained that the eldest son inherit everything. They saw the crusades as opportunities to conquer new lands and rule their own territories. They had the monetary resources and manpower to put

together their own military forces.

Overpopulation of agrarian areas made the children of farmers and peasants join the crusades with less-pretentious but real hopes of improving their lot rather than facing slow starvation at home. Opportunities for craftsmen of all sorts travelled with the soldiers to the east. In fact, it was only the landed or well-established of Europe who saw much to be gained by staying at home during times when hope and glory seemed to be on the road to Jerusalem.



Frederick Barbarossa
Emperor 1152-1090
Silver Pfennig of Aachen
Obv: Barbarossa enthroned
Rev: St. Peter's Cathedral



One of the leaders who chose to take part on his own in spite of being the Holy Roman Emperor was Frederick Barbarossa. His road to glory led to the Holy Land through Syria, where he fell from his horse while crossing a river, and, being decked out in full armor, he promptly drowned. Things got worse.

The crusaders realized, after several attempts to take and hold the Holy Lands, that it was better value to capture whichever area was poorly defended. Rapidly the holy war aspect of the crusades was lost as the opportunities for earthly gain were realized by the soldiers of Christendom.

Things reached something of a low point in 1202, when the crusaders found themselves heavily in debt to Venetian merchants while mounting a campaign against Egypt (rather than the Holy Land because it would be easier to defeat the Moslems in Egypt). To square their debts, they agreed to conquer the city of Zara for Venice, which they accomplished. They were promptly excommunicated *en masse* for attacking a Christian city. When the Pope learned the Venetians had tricked the crusaders, he cancelled their excommunication and excommunicated Venice instead!

The crusades had yet to reach their nadir, however. They were still dependant on Venice, and Doge Dandolo of Venice convinced them that all of their debts would be cancelled and they would be supplied if they would capture Constantinople for Venice. Having begun with the goal of protecting Byzantine Christians from the Moslems, they now convinced themselves to besiege the very capital of the Byzantine Empire!

Having effected an entry into the capital city, they engaged in riots and raids on the surrounding countryside for about a year while trying to secure the promised payoff from either Venice or the Byzantine Emperor. When they were unsuccessful in this extortion, they sacked the city itself in 1204. These crusaders destroyed works of art dating back to ancient Greek times, burned churches and libraries, and engaged in a frenzy of murder which lasted for three days. They brought the loot to a central area for accounting and divided the spoils with Venice to settle their accounts.

Constantinople finally fell to the Ottoman Turks on May 29, 1453. The plans of Pope Pius II to mount a new crusade failed when he died in 1463, unaware that the forces he had ordered to join him in freeing Constantinople had not bothered to arrive for his new crusade.

From the Idle Mind of Stephen M. Huston is a regular column of
The Journal which focuses on ancient and medieval times.

1946 IOWA STATEHOOD CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE HALF DOLLAR

"500 In 1996 and 500 In 2046"

by Michael S. Turrini

Secured in the vault of a large bank and protected by the full authority of the State of Iowa, a hoard of one thousand 1946 Iowa Statehood Centennial Commemorative half dollars quietly have remained undisturbed since 1949.

It may not be a well-known numismatic fact that the State of Iowa has retained for these past four decades one thousand of its commemorative half dollars.¹ Arlie R. Slabaugh in his United States Commemorative Coinage makes a short notice: "By order of the Governor and the Centennial Commission 500 coins were set aside for the State's 150th Anniversary and another 500 for the State's 200th Anniversary".² Anthony Swiatek and Walter Breen in their monumental The Encyclopedia of United States Silver and Gold Commemorative Coins, 1892-1954 make a similar statement.

Except for these two brief notices, this is all that is currently known or published about these one thousand half dollars. This article will attempt first to answer the question of why the half dollars were retained. Next, the article will report on their current disposition and custody. Please note that any discussion as to what may happen in 1996 and 2046 is beyond the intent or scope of this present article.

To answer the question posed above, it is necessary to review some background on this commemorative half dollar. Legislation authorizing this commemorative half dollar (Public Law 612, 79th Congress, Second Session) was not approved until August 7, 1946. This is a key date in that it was already halfway through Iowa's Centennial year. Second, as my first article on Adam Pietz reported, it was only through his outstanding craftsmanship and skill in die cutting that Iowa received its commemorative half dollars given the short time available for designing, cutting a die and minting the 100,000 authorized coins. Pietz's design was not approved until September 14, 1946, and the entire mintage of 100,057 was produced during November 1946. These half dollars were delivered "in December of 1946 all in one shipment to John M. Grimes",³ the State Treasurer. Thus, the concern that faced both Governor Robert D. Blue and the Iowa Centennial Committee was whether these half dollars would be sold, having arrived so late in the centennial year.⁴ "Despite gloomy predictions on the part of the nation's coin dealers that Iowa would be unable to dispose of the coins",⁵ nearly all the half dollars were sold between December 1946 and early 1947.

This success in sales—a testimonial to the people of Iowa who purchased

This article is dedicated to coin hobbyist Jan D. Henke, a native Iowan. Mr. Henke celebrates his birthday in October. This is the second in a series of articles on Adam Pietz and the Iowa Statehood Centennial Commemorative half dollar. The first article was dedicated to Donald and Helen Carmody, U.S. Commemorative numismatists.

their State's commemorative half dollar and to the planning and effort given to distributing and selling by the Iowa Centennial Commission—is beyond the subject of this present article. It is sufficient to write that, due to the lateness of delivery, sales were less than expected. In addition, the proceeds were received too late to be used "for the observation of the Centennial" as provided by Public Law 612.

Now a double dilemma faced Governor Blue and the Commission: first, most half dollars had been sold, but the centennial had now passed and some half dollars remained unsold. Second, the law authorizing the commemorative half dollar stated that proceeds from their sales were to be used to help finance the centennial celebration, an event that had now passed. Governor Blue, who at the age of ninety-one has been practicing law from the same office for over fifty years, has written to this author that he "deliberated as to how the" proceeds and remaining half dollars might be utilized and consulted with the Deans of the Law Schools at both Drake and Iowa Universities.

After consultations and exercising his authority under Public Law 612 which granted the governor of the State of Iowa the power to "direct" the proceeds from the half dollar sales, Governor Blue established by executive order, signed on January 5, 1949, a permanent public corporation titled the Iowa Centennial Memorial Foundation. He provided in his executive order its powers, duties and membership, and he transferred to it the net total proceeds from the sales as well as the remaining unsold half dollars.

The foundation, which is still in existence and has custody of the one thousand half dollars, has several functions. Only a brief summary is appropriate here: to "encourage and recognize achievement and outstanding service by Iowa citizens" (the Iowa Award), "scholarships", and "to provide historical exhibits".⁶ What is important to coin hobbyists is that with his executive order, Governor Blue transferred the one thousand half dollars and charged:

1. That one half of the one thousand (1000) unsold Iowa Statehood Memorial Coins shall be retained and kept in a safe place until the year A.D. 1996, at which time said coins shall be sold and proceeds from the sale thereof shall be used to help finance the celebration of Iowa's One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of Statehood.
2. That one half of the unsold Iowa Statehood Memorial Coins shall be retained and kept in a safe place until the year A.D. 2046, at which time said coins shall be sold and the proceeds from the sale thereof shall be used to help finance the celebration of Iowa's Bi-Centennial of Statehood.

For such purpose I do hereby sell, assign, deliver, and transfer the physical custody of and the legal title to said coins to the Iowa Centennial Memorial Foundation.⁷

In correspondence with former Governor Blue, he stated that it would "definitely be up to the committees" in the years 1996 and 2046 "to decide how these coins will be disposed of and how the funds from the sale of these coins will be used".⁸ This last fact is important for a correction is needed. Swiatek and Breen state that these half dollars are "intended for presentation to VIPs during" the

anniversary celebrations of 1996 and 2046. Although the commemorative half dollars have been used for the Iowa Award by the Centennial Memorial Foundation, this statement is contrary to Governor Blue's executive order.

Now that the origin of these half dollars has been explained, what is their current status?⁹ First, where are these half dollars located? These half dollars are stored permanently in "one large vault", described as about the size of a two-drawer file cabinet, within the main vault of the Norwest Bank, located in Des Moines' second highest building at 666 Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa's state capital. Also included in this vault are the original records and minutes of the foundation. The half dollars are under the immediate supervision and responsibility of the Honorable Michael L. Fitzgerald, current state treasurer of the State of Iowa. Each succeeding state treasurer has been their custodian since 1949 when State Treasurer John M. Grimes received these half dollars via Governor Blue's executive order.

These half dollars are visually inspected, but not counted, generally once a year, usually in May or June, during the annual audit and accounting of the foundation. No half dollars have been or are ever removed from the vault; only a short visual inspection is done, checking that the wire wrapping securing their containers and the wax seals along the containers' lids have not been broken nor disturbed.

These half dollars, as described by Deputy Treasurer Steven F. Miller who is delegated with the half dollars' responsibility, are wrapped in \$10 rolls in white tissue paper which is most likely a tarnish-preventing paper popular for coin storage years ago called Hewitts' Anti-Tarnish Tissue. These rolls are stored on the coins' edges such that a count could be taken. The half dollars are packed into two clear hard plastic boxes of five hundred each, twenty-five rolls per box. These two boxes Mr. Miller likens to lunch sandwich containers and may have been a popular brand of coin storage in the 1940s.

One box is placed on top of the other, and in the annual inspection the top box is lifted to examine the one below it. The wrapping wire is very thin wire wrapped once in each direction. One wire is now broken, but the wax seals remain intact. Mr. Miller's primary concern at the annual inspection is to examine for disturbance and unauthorized access to the vault as well as for moisture.

Mr. Miller believes that the half dollars are stored as they were originally delivered to the state and claims that, to his knowledge, the half dollars have remained untouched since placed in the vault. None show any apparent tarnish, and they look as clean and bright as the day they were minted. This author concludes, though, that these half dollars were wrapped in rolls after being shipped in standard United States Mint bags, a common practice for commemorative half dollars in the 1930s.

Access to the vault is restricted to the state treasurer and secretary of the foundation. In his annual inspection, Mr. Miller, representing the state treasurer, is accompanied by an appointed state audit manager, and the actual inspection is simply a brief look, lasting only a few minutes. Nothing is removed. Needless to say, elections and appointments periodically change who is authorized access, and updating signature cards every few years becomes a necessity. Mr. Miller is one of three people currently permitted to enter the vault.

What was learned by this author in his conversations with Mr. Miller is that

within the state treasurer's vault in the State Capitol Building in Des Moines, mounted in 2"x2" plastic coin holders, are twenty or so commemorative half dollars which are bestowed for the Iowa Award, one of the functions of the Iowa Centennial Memorial Foundation. These individual coin holders may be LeRoy Kurtzborn Plastic Coin Holders, a popular make in the 1940s. This award, given about every three or four years, is the State's highest honor. The first was to former President Herbert Hoover, a native of Iowa. Mr. Miller says that when an Iowa Award is presented, a half dollar is taken from storage and given to Iowa's governor who makes the presentation. The Iowa Award and any other presentations of these half dollars will be reviewed in another article.

One added remark to these half dollars' saga was an extremely short and undocumented notice in the January 1949 issue of Numismatic Scrapbook which read: The 1st 1,000 Iowa Centennial half dollars (1946) have been covered with lacquer by a Des Moines jeweler for sale 50 and 100 years hence".¹⁰ What or who started this rumor is unknown, and the half dollars' present condition proves this was incorrect.

Mr. Miller notes that neither his office nor anyone to his knowledge in the past has ever received any inquiries about these half dollars.

That is the what and where of those one thousand half dollars, the remaining 1946 Iowa Statehood Centennial Commemorative half dollars. What will happen to these half dollars in 1996, just seven short years away, and in 2046 is beyond the scope of this article. Inquiries to the State of Iowa will be politely rejected, and, as Governor Blue ordered, their disposition will be decided in 1996 and 2046.

In 1947, a brief sarcastic report was made in the June issue of The Numismatist about the retention of these half dollars. The unauthored short notice stated that "we have no way of knowing if this is a bit of speculation or if the coins are being kept for sentimental reasons". It goes on to remark:

A few who read this will undoubtedly be around to see what happens to the 500 coins "opened" in 1996. Personally we doubt if they bring as much as the ones sold this month. It is possible that the batch "opened" in 2046 will bring a slightly better price, though we doubt it.

It would be interesting to learn what protection has been made against theft, fire, and tarnish

This unusual method of "saving coins" may prove popular with other commissions handling commemorative coins. It is just possible that a commission will hoard the entire issue, and that, judging from a lot of letters we have received, would be quite all right as far as most present day collectors are concerned.

Apparently, there seemed to be apathy among coin hobbyists of the 1940s as to the Iowa commemorative half dollar as well as the contemporary Booker T. Washington commemorative half dollar. Of course, in those days, commemorative coinages seemed to be an endless series and investment was never a word used by coin hobbyists.

Whatever the reactions or indifference by the coin hobbyists of the 1940s, the wisdom of Governor Blue's executive order or the radical change in the coin

hobby in the intervening forty years, the fact remains that within a few years, and later in the twenty-first century, the State of Iowa will make the final decision as to its undisturbed and quietly resting half dollars.

One point should not be forgotten in 1996 or in 2046: thanks to that radical change of our hobby coupled with the economic expansion and turmoil of these past decades, Governor Blue's decision may, in the end, be one of the best investments ever made. Who can predict what those quietly resting "500 in 1996 and 500 in 2046" will command.

Just wait and stay tuned—the first batch is just a short, seven years away.

FOOTNOTES

1. The two primary sources for this article were: Governor Robert D. Blue, Iowa's oldest living former Governor and Governor from 1945 to 1949, and Deputy State Treasurer Steven F. Miller, current assistant to the Honorable Michael L. Fitzgerald, State Treasurer of Iowa. Footnotes limited to long quotations.
2. Swiatek and Breen, The Encyclopedia of United States Silver and Gold Commemorative Coins, 1892-1954, page 112.
3. Governor Robert D. Blue, Letter December 15, 1988.
4. The author is indebted to former Governor Robert D. Blue for his assistance with this section of this article.
5. Governor Robert D. Blue, Executive Order, January 5, 1949.
6. Ibid.
7. Ibid.
8. Governor Robert D. Blue, Letter November 4, 1988.
9. The author is indebted to current Deputy State Treasurer Steven F. Miller for his assistance with this section of this article.
10. Numismatic Scrapbook, February 20, 1949, page 116.
11. The Numismatist, June 1947, pp. 436-437.
12. The Iowa and Washington commemorative half dollars were both approved on the same date, August 7, 1946, and were considered together by the Congress. Their relationship will be reviewed in a future article.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Blue, Governor Robert D., Governor of Iowa 1945-1949, Various Correspondences and Executive Order of January 5, 1949.
- Miller, Deputy State Treasurer Steven F., Various Telephone Conversations and Correspondences.
- Laws Authorizing Issuance of Medals and Commemorative Coins, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1959.
- The Numismatist, Volumes for 1945, 1946, 1947 and 1948.
- Numismatic Scrapbook, Volumes for 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948 and 1949.
- Slaubaugh, Arlie R., United States Commemorative Coinage, Second Edition, Western Publishing, Racine, Wisconsin, c. 1975.
- Swiatek, Anthony and Breen, Walter, The Encyclopedia of United States Silver and Gold Commemorative Coins, 1892-1954, FCI Press, New York, c. 1981.



MEDALS ROUND-UP



LIBERTY NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

The Liberty Numismatic Society (LNS) of San Mateo has just released its 1989 medal. The design commemorates Apollo XI and Neil Armstrong's historic walk on the Moon.

Specifications:

Minted by Masterpiece Medallions, Claremont, CA

Designed by Al Lo (obverse only; reverse is LNS logo)

Diameter: 39mm round

Mintages: Silver (.999, 1 oz.) 100 numbered

Oxidized Bronze 150

Golden Bronze 62

Aluminum 3

Oxidized Copper 3

Copper 3

Lead 3 normal

Lead 1 uniface



Oxidized bronze are \$3 each; silver are \$21 each. Make checks to: Liberty Numismatic Society, P.O. Box 844, Millbrae, CA 94030

PENINSULA COIN CLUB

The Peninsula Coin Club has announced the issuance of its 1989 medal. The medal honors America's first president, George Washington.

Specifications:

Minted by Masterpiece Medallions, Claremont, CA



Designed by Al Lo (obverse only; reverse is club logo)

Diameter: 39mm round

Mintages:	Silver (.999, 1 oz.)	90
	Bronze	800
	Copper, Antiqued	60
	Bronze	25 uniface
	Bronze, Antiqued	4
	Aluminum	4
	Copper	4
	Lead	4 uniface

Two each of the aluminum, copper, antiqued bronze and lead uniface medals will be sold to the highest bidder at an auction during the January 1990 club meeting. Bronze are \$3 each; silver are \$25 each. Make checks to: Peninsula Coin Club. Mail to: Fred G. van den Haak, P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0484.



1989 Design

Peninsula Coin Club's ANNUAL COIN SHOW — FREE ADMISSION —

HYATT PALO ALTO
4290 El Camino Real
Palo Alto, California

Sunday, November 12, 1989
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Information: Peninsula Coin Club, P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, CA 94306

SAN FRANCISCO THROUGH ITS TOKENS

Cascade Saloon

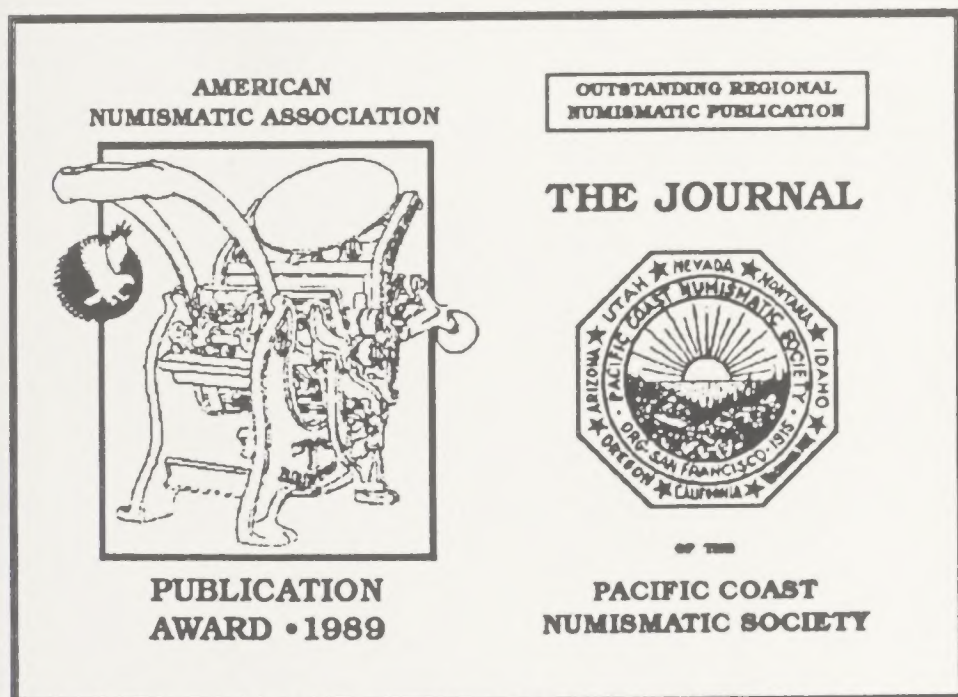
by Jerry F. Schimmel

From 1901 until it was destroyed by the 1906 fire, this Barbary Coast establishment contributed its share to the evil and vice that suffused this part of the city. The 25mm brass token reads: **CASCADE SALOON, 500 PACIFIC ST. 12 1/2c.**



The city directories have the proprietor as one Richard B. Darker, an appropriate name. They also list the saloon at 513 Pacific Street for most of these years, but directory listings for that area of town were notoriously unreliable in that day. Likewise, the salesman who had the token made up may not have done a careful job or may have been in a hurry to get out of the area. According to Asbury, the place had a reputation for mob connections. At any rate, for the attributions of tokens, "500" is close enough to "513".

Reference: The Barbary Coast by Herbert Asbury (1930s).



As many of our readers are aware, The Journal has been awarded the American Numismatic Association Regional Publication Award for 1989.

The Journal staff extends their sincere appreciation to the contributors for their participation.

ANCIENT and MEDIEVAL COINS



Fixed Price and Auction Catalogues



STEPHEN M. HUSTON
Classical Numismatist

P.O. Box 3621
San Francisco, CA 94119
(415) 781-7580

Write for monthly illustrated lists.

Office: 582 Market Street, Suite 1011, San Francisco
Weekdays by Appointment



CALVIN J. ROGERS
Classical Numismatics

Write for our fully-illustrated catalogs of Ancient and Medieval Coins

Calvin J. Rogers
Jeanette Rogers
ANS SAN ANA

P.O. Box 7233
Redwood City, CA 94063
(415) 369-1508